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(54) **ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT ABSORBING COMPOUNDS AND SILICONE COMPOSITIONS**

ULTRAVIOLETTES LICHT ABSORBIERENDE VERBINDUNGEN UND SILIKONHALTIGE
ZUSAMMENSETZUNGEN

COMPOSES ABSORBANT LA LUMIERE ULTRAVIOLETTE ET COMPOSITIONS A BASE DE
SILICONE

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(73) Proprietor: **ALLERGAN, INC**
Irvine, California 92715 (US)

(72) Inventor: **YANG, Shih-Liang, S.**
San Gabriel, CA 91776 (US)

(74) Representative:
Geering, Keith Edwin
REDDIE & GROSE
16 Theobalds Road
London WC1X 8PL (GB)

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Description

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 [0001] This invention relates to ultraviolet (UV) light absorbing compounds and polymer compositions, and more particularly, to UV light absorbing compounds and to polymer compositions including silicone polymers which compositions include, or are partially derived from, such UV light absorbing compounds. The subject polymer compositions, which are preferably optically clear, may be used in the fabrication of UV light absorbing ocular devices such as corneal contact lenses, intraocular lenses, and corneal intrastromal implant lenses.

10 [0002] The incident light entering the eye is composed of the entire spectrum of wavelengths including the ultraviolet, visible, and infrared. The cornea preferentially filters UV light in the range of about 300 nm to about 400 nm. Thus, in the eye with its natural lens in place relatively little radiation of wavelengths less than about 400 nm reaches the posterior intraocular structures, e.g., the vitreous humor and the retina.

[0003] In the aphakic individual, i.e., that individual who has had the natural crystalline lens removed, there is a loss in protection for the retina from UV light in the above-noted range. Thus, the use of UV light absorbing contact or intraocular lenses is particularly important for the aphakic person. It is further believed that UV light screening spectacles or contact lenses may retard the development of a cataract in the natural lens.

[0004] Although low molecular weight, non-polymerizable UV light absorbing compounds of various types are effective in blocking UV radiation when compounded into polymer formulations, their extractability in various media may limit their utility. Also, such UV light absorbing compounds have a potential for phase separation from the polymer formulation. This so-called "blooming" effect is dependent on how soluble the UV light absorbing compound is in the polymer. These problems are remedied by the synthesis of polymerizable, UV light absorbing monomers which can be covalently coupled into the polymer matrix. These covalently bonded UV light absorbing monomers are not extractable and do not phase separate from the remainder of the polymer. Articles fabricated from UV light absorbing silicone compositions incorporating these polymerizable UV light absorbing monomers therefore maintain stable ultraviolet screening characteristics and do not exhibit haze or blooming. The "blooming" problem could be solved by providing a UV light absorbing compound which, even though it is not polymerizable, has increased solubility in the polymer.

[0005] Reich, et al U.S. Patent 4,868,251 discloses UV light absorbing compositions comprising silicone elastomers and, covalently bonded thereto, a UV light absorbing component derived from one or more of certain vinyl functional benzotriazole monomers. In preparing the final composition, heat and/or a co-solvent, such as isopropanol, is often needed to dissolve the UV light absorbing monomer in the silicone prepolymer. It would be advantageous to provide a UV light absorbing component which has substantial compatibility or solubility in the silicone prepolymers without requiring heat and/or a co-solvent. This would simplify, ease and quicken the manufacture of the final UV light absorbing polymeric composition. Further, an UV light absorbing component with enhanced compatibility and/or solubility would result in a monomer/prepolymer mix with a relatively long shelf life so that the mix could be produced and stored well before its ultimate use with little or no phase separation or other detrimental effect.

[0006] European Patent Publication No. 0282294 discloses vinylsilylalkoxy arylbenzotriazole monomers which are incorporated into optically clear silicone polymers. These silicon-containing monomers are taught as being more reactive with the silicone polymers than are non-silicon-containing monomers so that a more complete reaction and less non-reacted monomer are obtained. This publication still discloses the need for relatively high temperature, on the order of 90°C, to solubilize the monomer in the silicone prepolymer. Because of these elevated temperatures, the monomer is often mixed with only one portion or part of a conventional two part silicone formulation. The resulting additional mixing step adds to the cost and complexity of the final polymeric composition manufacturing process. Also, the limited solubility of this monomer reduces the effective shelf life of the prepolymer/monomer mixture.

45 [0007] US patent specification 4,960,898 discloses the use of certain organosilicon compounds having a benzotriazole skeleton as suitable additives to silicone oils used in the medical and cosmetic fields to act as UV light absorbers.

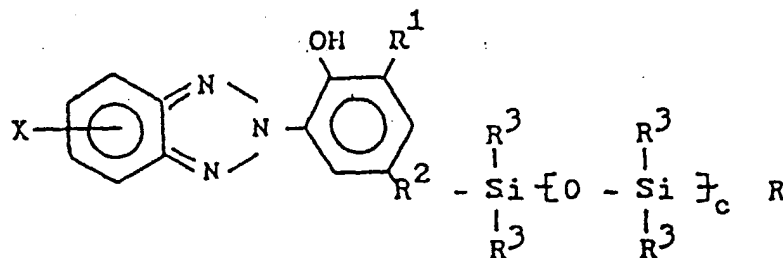
[0008] Clearly, it would be advantageous to provide a new, preferably more soluble, class of UV light absorbing compounds, particularly for use in silicone polymers.

50 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0009] New UV light absorbing compositions and compounds have been discovered. The present invention provides ultraviolet light absorbing silicone compositions and their use in a corneal contact lens as defined in the claims hereto. The invention further provides compounds as defined in the attached claims, together with the claimed compositions curable into a cross-linked polymer composition. The present compounds have excellent UV light absorbing properties and may be used in a variety of materials to provide desired UV light absorbance. These compounds are particularly useful for incorporation in the present compositions. The present compositions comprise silicone elastomer and UV light absorbing component present as, or derived from, one or more of certain UV light absorbing compounds.

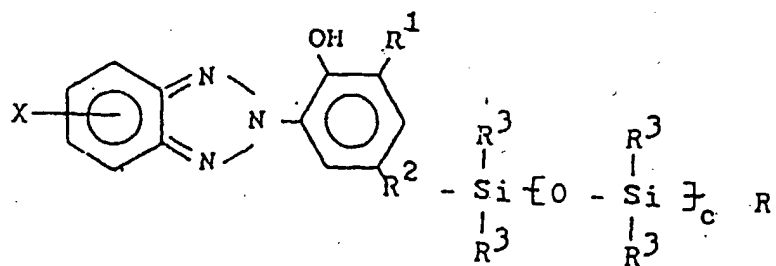
The present UV light absorbing compounds are readily soluble in the silicone prepolymer or prepolymers often without heating and/or the use of a co-solvent. Additionally, mixtures of the present UV light absorbing compounds and silicone prepolymers remain stable, for example, substantially homogenous, over long periods of time, i.e., have long shelf lives, even at temperatures of less than about 0°C. These features enhance the ease of manufacturing ocular products, such as lenses, from the present compositions. Mixtures of the UV light absorbing compound/silicone prepolymer/cross-linking agent are useful, for example, for producing solid, cured or cross-linked lens structures for the eye. The present compositions can be used to absorb radiation in the wavelength range of about 300 nm to about 400 nm. These compositions are preferably optically clear and can be utilized for the manufacture of corneal contact, intraocular and corneal intrastromal lenses. There is no significant phase separation, and preferably no significant extraction, of the UV light absorbing component, for example, during normal use of the compositions or lenses.

[0010] The present invention provides a polymerisable ultra violet light absorbing compound which can be covalently coupled into a silicone elastomer and which is of the following formula



and mixtures thereof wherein X is selected from H, alkoxy radicals (preferably containing 1 to about 6 carbon atoms), and halogen; R¹ is selected from H and alkyl radicals (preferably containing 1 to about 8, more preferably 1 to about 4, carbon atoms), provided that at least one of X and R¹ is other than H; R² is selected from divalent hydrocarbon radicals, such as alkylene radicals, divalent substituted hydrocarbon radicals, oxo, divalent oxyhydrocarbon radicals and divalent substituted oxyhydrocarbon radicals (preferably containing up to about 6 carbon atoms and more preferably containing 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, and still more preferably being an alkylene radical containing 1 to about 4 carbon atoms); each R³ is independently selected from alkyl radicals, substituted alkyl radicals, alkoxy radicals, substituted alkoxy radicals, aryl radicals and substituted aryl radicals (preferably alkyl radicals, alkoxy radicals and aryl radicals and more preferably alkyl radicals and aryl radicals); c is an integer of 1 to 20, preferably 1 to 4; and, so that the UV light absorbing compound is polymerizable, R is selected from H and CH = CH₂.

[0011] The present invention also provides an ultraviolet light absorbing silicone composition comprising silicone elastomer and an effective amount of UV light absorbing component covalently bonded to (and a part of) the silicone elastomer; the UV light absorbing component is derived from one or more UV light absorbing benzotriazole compounds having the following structure or formula:



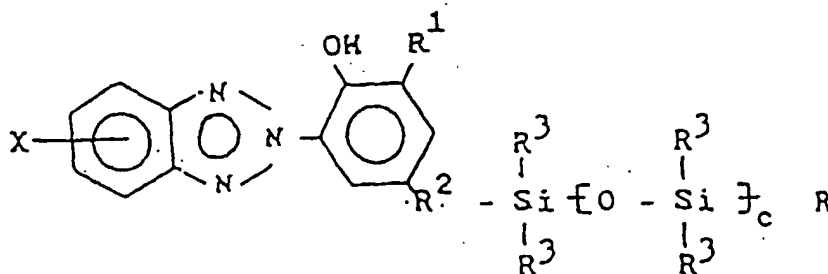
wherein X is selected from H, alkoxy radicals (preferably containing 1 to about 6 carbon atoms), and halogen; R¹ is selected from H and alkyl radicals (preferably containing 1 to about 8, more preferably 1 to about 4 carbon atoms), provided that at least one of X and R¹ is other than H; R² is selected from divalent hydrocarbon radicals such as alkylene radicals, divalent substituted hydrocarbon radicals, oxo, divalent oxyhydrocarbon radicals and divalent substituted oxyhydrocarbon radicals (preferably containing up to about 6 carbon atoms and more preferably containing 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, and still more preferably being an alkylene radical containing 1 to about 4 carbon atoms); each R³ is independently selected from alkyl radicals, substituted alkyl radicals, alkoxy radicals, substituted alkoxy radicals, aryl radicals, substituted aryl radicals, and fluoro radicals (preferably from alkyl radicals, alkoxy radicals and aryl radicals

and more preferably from alkyl radicals and aryl radicals); R is selected from H and $\text{CH} = \text{CH}_2$; and c is an integer of 1 to about 10 or about 20, preferably 1 to about 4. One or more of the R^3 s may be organo fluoro radicals, for example, fluoro hydrocarbon radicals. R is selected from H and $\text{CH} = \text{CH}_2$.

[0012] In the event that any R^3 is aliphatic, it preferably contains 1 to about 8, more preferably 1 to about 4, carbon atoms. If any R^3 is aromatic, it preferably contains 6 to about 10, and more preferably 6, carbon atoms. In a particularly useful embodiment, each R^3 is independently selected from methyl radicals, substituted methyl radicals, phenyl radicals and substituted phenyl radicals. In the event that R^1 is alkyl, it is preferably tertiary alkyl, and more preferably t-butyl.

[0013] Examples of useful alkoxy radicals include methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, hexoxy and the like. A particularly useful halogen group for use as X is chloro. Examples of useful alkyl groups include methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, hexyl, octyl and the like. Examples of useful alkylene groups include ethylene, propylene, butylene and the like. Examples of useful aryl radicals include phenyl, methyl phenyl, ethyl phenyl, dimethyl phenyl and the like. The substituted groups referred to herein are exemplified by the above-noted groups (and the other groups referred to herein) substituted with one or more substituent groups including elements such as oxygen, nitrogen, carbon, hydrogen, halogen, sulfur, phosphorus and the like and mixtures or combinations thereof.

[0014] The invention further provides a composition curable into a cross-linked polymer product and comprising a cross-linkable siloxane polymer, a cross-linking component capable of reacting with said cross-linkable siloxane polymer, and at least one compound capable of reacting with at least one of said cross-linkable siloxane polymer and said cross-linking component in an amount effective to render said cross-linked polymer product ultraviolet light absorbing, said compound having the structure :



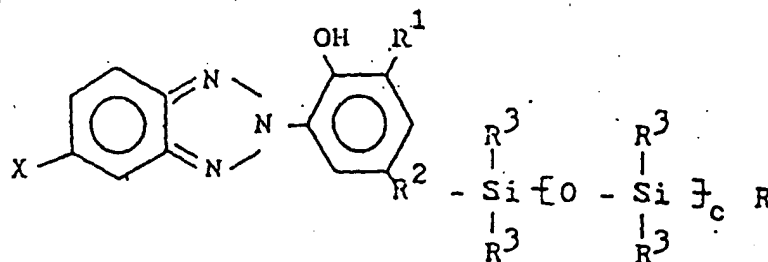
wherein R, R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , X and c are as defined above for the covalently bonded UV light absorbing silicone composition according to the invention.

[0015] The UV light absorbing compositions of the present invention are preferably optically clear, stable materials useful in the fabrication of corneal contact lenses, corneal intrastromal lenses and intraocular lenses. About 0.05% or 0.1% to about 5% by weight of the UV light absorbing component is preferably included in the composition to yield the appropriate UV light blocking efficiency, e.g., in samples of thickness comparable to the final lens products. For example, the UV light absorbing compositions of the present invention can be formulated to completely block ultraviolet radiation in the range of about 300 nm to about 390 nm and to display about 2% to about 20% transmittance at 400 nm for .75 mm thick samples.

[0016] The UV light absorbing silicone polymeric compositions substantially retain the physical characteristics of the non-UV light absorbing silicone polymeric compositions. The silicone compositions are such that the UV light absorbing component may be covalently attached thereto. Suitable silicone elastomers include, for example, two part platinum catalyzed, vinyl/hydride, addition cured polysiloxanes, such as polydimethylsiloxanes, poly dimethyl-diphenyl siloxanes, and polyorganofluorosiloxanes, as well as other addition cured polyorganosiloxanes and the like and mixtures thereof.

[0017] The present polymerizable UV light absorbing compounds or monomers are preferably reacted with hydride or vinyl functional siloxane prepolymers and/or with hydride or vinyl functional cross-linking or cross-linker agents or components to covalently attach the UV light absorbing component. The cross-linking components are preferably components of a two-part platinum catalyzed, addition cured silicone elastomer formulation. The UV light absorbing component is preferably attached to the prepolymer and/or to a siloxane cross-linking component by a platinum catalyzed reaction. For example, the UV light absorbing monomer may act to form a bridging group similar to that which forms when the siloxane cross-linking component reacts with the siloxane prepolymer in the normal curing process to form the silicone elastomer.

[0018] A particularly useful class of UV light absorbing compounds is selected from compounds having the following formula or structure



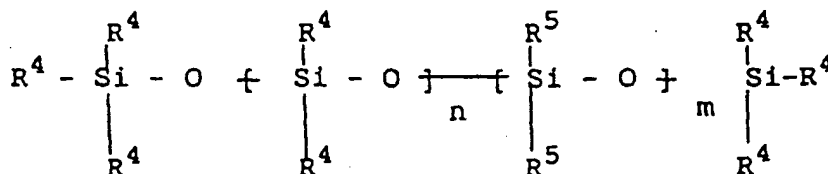
[0019] All tautomers, isomers and the like and mixtures thereof of the present UV light absorbing compounds are included within the scope of the present invention. For example, if R^2 is an ethylene radical, it may be bonded to the aromatic ring at either the alpha carbon atom or the beta carbon atom. Also, a mixture of such alpha and beta isomers may be used and is included in the scope of the present invention.

[0020] The present hydride functional UV light absorbing compounds can be prepared, for example, using the vinyl functional, benzotriazole derivatives disclosed in Reich et al U.S. Patent 4,868,251 as starting materials. Such vinyl functional, benzotriazole derivative is reacted with a siloxane having at least two functional hydride groups so that the UV light absorbing compound is polymerizable.

[0021] This reaction preferably occurs in the liquid phase, using a conventional solvent such as toluene, in the presence of a catalyst, such as a platinum-containing catalyst. Reaction conditions are sufficient to allow the vinyl group of the benzotriazole derivative to react with one of the hydride groups of the siloxane. Such conditions can include a temperature in the range of about -60°C to about 50°C and reaction times in the range of about 1 hour or less to about 60 hours or more. The resulting hydride functional UV light absorbing monomer or monomers or non-polymerizable UV light absorbing compound or compounds can be recovered, separated and/or purified using conventional techniques, such as distillation, extraction and the like.

[0022] The present hydride functional UV light absorbing monomers can be used to prepare the present vinyl functional UV light absorbing monomers. Thus, such hydride functional monomers can be reacted with acetylene to form the present vinyl functional monomers. This reaction preferably occurs in the liquid phase, using a conventional solvent such as toluene, in the presence of a catalyst, such as a platinum-containing catalyst. Reaction conditions are sufficient to allow the hydride group of the hydride functional monomer to react with the acetylene. Such conditions can include a temperature in the range of about -60°C to about 50°C and reaction times in the range of about 0.2 hours or less to about 10 hours or more. The resulting vinyl functional UV light absorbing monomer or monomers can be recovered, separated and/or purified using conventional techniques, such as distillation, extraction and the like.

[0023] The silicone compositions of this invention comprise one or more UV light absorbing silicone elastomers, for example, UV light absorbing polysiloxanes, preferably polyorganosiloxane elastomers, prepared by the covalent incorporation of certain polymerizable UV light absorbing monomers, as described herein, to silicone materials, preferably to hydride or vinyl functional siloxane base polymers (or pre-polymers) and cross-linking agents or components. The present compositions preferably further comprise at least one reinforcing agent, such as reinforcing silicone resins, silica and the like which are conventionally used to strengthen silicone elastomeric compositions. The reinforcing agent or agents are present, if at all, in an amount effective to enhance the strength of the composition relative to a substantially identical composition without such agent or agents. For example, the reinforcing agent or agents may be present in an amount up to about 50% by weight or more based on the silicone elastomer present in the composition. In one embodiment, the base polymers utilized in the present invention have the following structure or formulation:



and mixtures thereof, wherein each R^4 and R^5 is independently selected from H, $\text{CH} = \text{CH}_2$, alkyl radicals, substituted alkyl radicals, alkoxy radicals, substituted alkoxy radicals, alkenyl radicals with a terminal double bond, substituted alke-

nyl radicals with a terminal double bond, aryl radicals, substituted aryl radicals and fluoro radicals, provided that at least one, and preferably at least two, of the R^4 's is/are selected from H and olefinically unsaturated groups; and n and m are independently selected from integers of 0 to about 20,000. In the event that one or more R^4 's and/or R^5 's are fluoro radicals, one or more other R^4 's and/or R^5 's are preferably organic radicals. One or more, of the R^4 's and/or R^5 's may be organo fluoro radicals, for example, fluoro hydrocarbon radicals.

[0024] Each of the R^4 's and R^5 's may be independently selected from alkyl radicals containing 1 to about 4 carbon atoms, fluoro alkyl radicals containing 1 to about 3 carbon atoms, phenyl radicals, substituted aryl radicals, alkenyl radicals containing 2 to about 4 carbon atoms and having a terminal, double bond and mixtures thereof.

[0025] Examples of useful alkenyl groups include ethenyl, propenyl, butenyl, hexenyl, octenyl and the like.

[0026] The cross-linking or cross-linker agents useful in the present invention are preferably components of a two part, silicone elastomer formulation, more preferably a two part, platinum catalyzed vinyl/hydride, addition cured silicone elastomer formulation. In one embodiment, the attachment of the UV light absorbing monomer to the silicone elastomer preferably proceeds by a platinum catalyzed reaction to form an ethylenic bridging group similar to that which forms when a cross-linking molecule binds together siloxane base polymer molecules in the normal curing or cross-linking reaction of the silicone elastomer. Thus, when the base polymer is vinyl functional, the UV light absorbing monomer can be either vinyl functional or hydride functional, preferably vinyl functional, and the cross-linking agent is hydride functional. Conversely, when the base polymer is hydride functional, the UV light absorbing monomer can be either vinyl functional or hydride functional, preferably hydride functional, and the cross-linking agent is vinyl functional. In addition, one or more of the base polymer and the cross-linking agent can be both vinyl and hydride functional.

[0027] In any event, the silicone elastomer is cross-linked and optically clear, and includes an effective UV light absorbing amount of the UV light absorbing component of the present invention covalently bonded within the silicone elastomer. These optically clear, UV light absorbing elastomeric compositions are very effective for inclusion in corneal contact lenses, intraocular lenses and corneal intrastromal lenses. Conventional lens forming techniques, for example, molding techniques, can be used to provide lenses comprising the present UV light absorbing elastomeric compositions.

[0028] The preferred siloxane cross-linking agents include a plurality, in particular at least three (3) of functional groups per molecule. Thus, each cross-linking molecule preferably can participate both in the covalent attachment of the UV absorbing monomer as well as in the formation of cross-links between siloxane base polymer molecules.

[0029] Suitable cross-linking agents include agents which are conventionally used to produce cross-linked silicone polymers, in particular, polysiloxane elastomers, for example, employing two part platinum catalyzed silicone systems to produce silicone elastomers by vinyl/hydride addition curing. Thus, suitable cross-linking agents are available as a component of many such conventional two part systems. Specific examples of effective cross-linking agents include 1,3,5,7-tetramethylcyclotetrasiloxane, methyl hydropolysiloxane, 1,3,5-trivinyl-1,1,3,5,5-pentamethyl-trisiloxane, methyl vinyl polysiloxane and the like.

[0030] The relative amounts of base polymer, UV light absorbing compound and cross-linking agent employed to produce the final composition, e.g., the siloxane elastomer composition, are chosen to provide a final composition having the desired properties, including the desired degree of cross-linking and the desired degree of UV light absorbing ability. The relative amounts of the components utilized varies depending on many factors, for example, on the specific components being employed, and on the application for which the final composition is to be employed. As noted above, conventional two part silicone polymer formulations can be employed. Any adjustments to these conventional formulations (in terms of relative amounts of components) are relatively minor (if required at all) to insure that the relatively minor amount of UV absorbing monomer is effectively incorporated, e.g., physically mixed and/or covalently attached, within the final composition.

[0031] The incorporation of the UV light absorbing compound can be made to occur at one or more of various steps in the process of producing an UV light absorbing silicone elastomer. One method is to simply dissolve the UV light absorbing compound into a mixture of the silicone components and to allow the incorporation of the UV light absorbing monomer to occur simultaneous to the formation of the base polymer cross-links. The UV light absorbing compound can be combined with the silicone components just prior to the polymerization reaction, for example, at the mixing or injection head. Also, if desired, the UV absorbing compound can be combined with all or a portion of the silicone components to be polymerized to form a homogeneous mixture which is stored, for example, for relatively long periods of time, on the order of days or weeks, preferably at reduced temperatures, for example about -80°C to about 0°C , before the polymerization reaction. The present benzotriazole-type UV light absorbing compounds have sufficient solubility so that 1% by weight of a benzotriazole-type UV light absorbing compound in accordance with the present invention remains in solution in a curable liquid mixture including all the precursor components of a platinum-catalyzed, cross-linked silicone elastomer even after such mixture is maintained for one week at -60°C . This unique solubility feature allows silicone compositions to be prepared and stored well in advance of the final polymerization/curing without phase separation or precipitation of the UV light absorbing compound, and without uneven or premature curing of the mixture. Alternatively, the presently polymerizable UV light absorbing monomer can be pre-reacted with the cross-linking agent

to form essentially a UV light absorbing, cross-linking adduct. The composite molecule is subsequently formulated with siloxane base polymer, and preferably additional platinum catalyst, to be cured into the UV light absorbing silicone-elastomer. In any case a degree of incorporation of the UV light absorbing compound of greater than 95% is preferably obtained.

[0032] The UV light absorbing component covalently attached within the silicone elastomer does not leach out in aqueous or organic solvents, for example isopropanol.

[0033] The present UV light absorbing compound often absorbs ultraviolet light strongly in the range of about 300 nm to about 400 nm, and exhibits reduced absorption at wavelengths higher than about 400 nm.

[0034] Preferably, the maximum amount of the UV light absorbing compound incorporated in the UV light absorbing composition of the present invention is about 5% by weight. More preferably, the UV light absorbing compound is incorporated into the UV light absorbing composition in an amount in the range of about 0.05% to about 5% by weight and still more preferably about 1% or less by weight, especially about 0.1% to about 1% by weight, based on the total composition. Of course, it is understood that the present polymerizable UV absorbing monomer is not present as such in the composition, but is part of the polymer. However, for convenience and simplicity, in certain instances herein the UV light absorbing monomer is referred to as being present in the polymer. The percentage of UV light absorbing monomer in the polymer referred to herein means the weight percent of such monomer based on the total material included in the composition. The amount of UV light absorbing compound included is that required to give the degree of light absorption desired and is dependent, for example, on the specific UV light absorbing compound or compounds employed, the specific silicone elastomer producing monomer or monomers employed and on the thickness, e.g., the optical path, of the product, e.g., lens, to be made from the polymeric composition. By Beers Law of Absorption, the required amount of absorber is inversely proportional to the optical path length through the lens device. It is often desired that the ultraviolet light transmission at 400 nm be less than about 10 to 15% of the incident light and at 390 nm be less than about 3%. The visible light transmission in the 410 - 450 nm range often should not be reduced below about 50% of the total light.

[0035] As noted above, the present UV light absorbing compounds have substantial compatibility with, e.g., solubility in, the base polymers or prepolymers and/or other silicone, in particular siloxane, molecules (e.g., cross-linking agents) used in producing the final silicone elastomer. Thus, in many instances the UV light absorbing compounds can be dissolved in the prepolymer/compound mix without using a co-solvent and/or without the application of heat. In one embodiment, the present invention involves benzotriazole derivatives effective to absorb, preferably preferentially absorb, UV light and having melting points less than 25°C. Since a uniform mixture can often be prepared at room temperature, that is on the order of about 20°C to about 25°C, such mixture can be very conveniently prepared, e.g., at room temperature, without concern for premature and uneven curing, since curing often occurs at relatively elevated temperatures.

[0036] The present UV light absorbing compounds can be used very effectively as a component of a curable liquid composition comprising, in addition to the UV light absorbing compound, a cross-linkable siloxane base polymer or prepolymer, a cross-linking agent, e.g., as described herein, and a cross-linking catalyst, such as a platinum-containing catalyst as described herein. Such curable liquid composition can be stored at reduced temperature, for example, about -80°C to about 0°C for long, on the order of days or weeks, or even indefinite periods of time without concern for precipitation or phase separation of the UV light absorbing compound, or for uneven or premature curing. The curable liquid composition can be injected into the lens capsule of the eye where it is cured at body temperature to a solid, transparent lens which has effective UV light absorbing properties. The use of curable liquid compositions to produce lens structures is disclosed in Wright et al U.S. Patent 4,608,050, which is incorporated in its entirety herein by reference.

[0037] The invention will be further described in connection with the following examples which are set forth for purposes of illustration only.

[0038] The starting material in Example 1 is 2-(2'-hydroxy-3'-t-butyl-5'-vinylphenyl)-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole, hereinafter identified as "I", which itself can be produced as described in Reich et al U.S. Patent 4,868,251, which is incorporated in its entirety herein by reference.

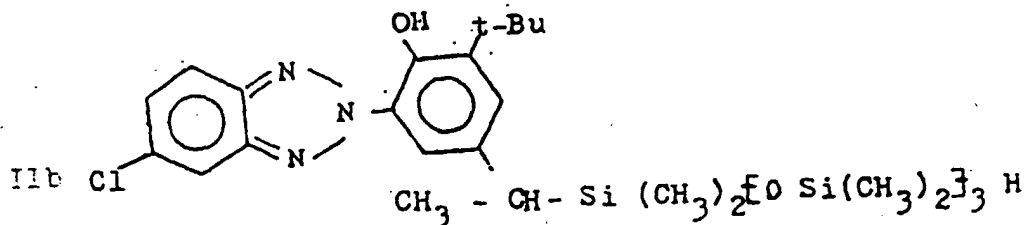
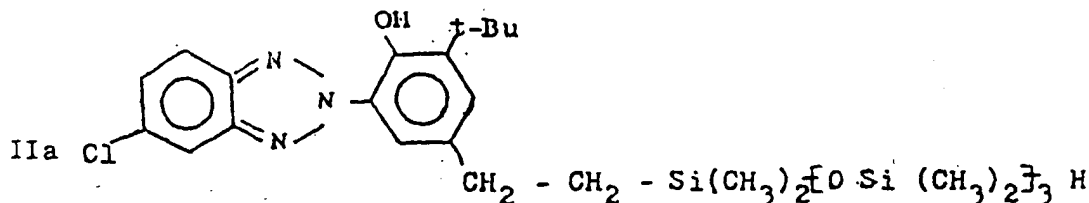
EXAMPLE 1

Preparation of 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2''-(7'''-hydro octamethyl tetrasiloxane)ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole and 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(1''-7'''-hydro octamethyl tetrasiloxane)ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole mixture

[0039] The above-noted mixture of the present UV light absorbing monomers is prepared to be used in preparing the mixture of UV light absorbing monomers in Example 2 and the UV light absorbing silicone composition of Example 4.

[0040] A 100 ml 3 neck flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, an inert gas inlet topped reflux condenser and a thermocouple was charged with 20 g (0.071 mole) 1,1,3,3,5,5,7,7-octamethyltetrasiloxane (from Petrarch Systems, Inc.), 4.0 g (0.012 mole) of I and 10 g dry toluene. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour until all of the I dissolved. 1 ml platinum complex solution (Petrarch Systems, Inc., catalog no. PC-075) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 48 hours. Unreacted octamethyltetrasiloxane and toluene were removed by vacuum. 7.5 g (100%) yellow viscous oil, hereinafter identified as "II" was isolated. Using conventional chromatography techniques, II can be further purified, if desired. However, this yellow viscous oil, without further purification, is effective as a polymerizable UV light absorbing monomer mixture. This mixture remained as a liquid even at -60°C.

[0041] Mass spectroscopy analysis indicated a molecular weight for II of 610. High pressure liquid chromatography analysis showed essentially two components corresponding to the IIa (80%) and IIb (20%) isomers, shown below. The structures of IIa and IIb isomers and the corresponding concentration ratio were confirmed by UV/VIS, IR, and ¹H NMR analyses.



[0042] This mixture is found to have very effective UV light absorbing properties.

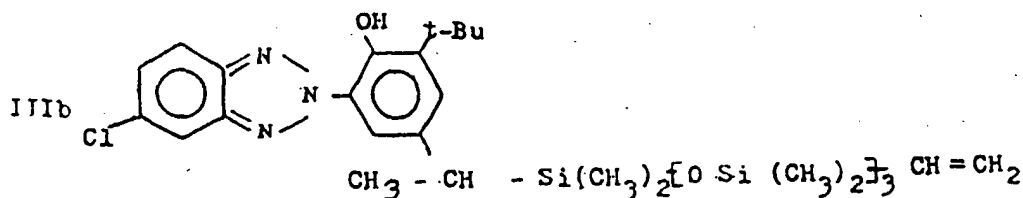
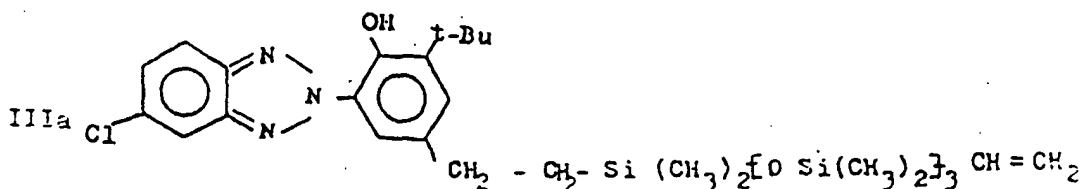
EXAMPLE 2

Preparation of a 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2''-(7'''-vinyl octamethyl tetrasiloxane) ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole and 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(1''-(7'''-vinyl octamethyl tetrasiloxane) ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole mixture

[0043] The above-noted mixture of the present UV light absorbing monomers is prepared to be used in preparing the UV light absorbing silicone composition of Example 3.

[0044] A 100 ml, 3 neck flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, a reflux condenser, an acetylene gas inlet, and a thermocouple was charged with 2 g of II (the mixture of isomers) and 60 ml dry toluene. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes until all II dissolved. The solution was purged with dry, scrubbed acetylene gas for 2 hours. 1 ml platinum complex solution was added. The reaction mixture was stirred and purged with acetylene continuously at room temperature for 6 hours. Unreacted acetylene and toluene were removed by vacuum. 2.0 g (100%) yellow viscous oil, hereinafter identified as "III", was isolated. Using conventional chromatography techniques, III can be further purified, if desired. However, this isolated product is effective as a polymerizable UV light absorbing monomer mixture. This mixture remained as a liquid even at -60°C.

[0045] Mass spectrometry analysis indicated a molecular weight for III of 636. High pressure liquid chromatography analysis showed two components corresponding to the IIIa (80%) and IIIb (20%) isomers, shown below. The structures of the IIIa and IIIb isomers and the corresponding concentration ratio were confirmed by UV/VIS, IR, and ¹H NMR analyses.



[0046] This mixture is found to have very effective UV light absorbing properties.

EXAMPLE 3

Preparation of UV Absorbing Silicone

[0047] A glass beaker was charged with 10.20 g of part A, and 10.10 g of part B of a fast cure silicone RTV (McGhan Nusil Corporation Med-6230), and 0.066 g of III (the mixture of isomers). The contents were mixed thoroughly with a glass rod at room temperature. The resulting mixture was deaerated under vacuum and cured at 100° C for 15 minutes in a mold into a 0.78 mm thick film. This film was extracted with toluene for 8 hours. Both the original film (pre-extraction), which included about 0.32% by weight of the UV light absorbing component, and the extracted film (post extraction) were optically clear and were tested for UV light absorbance.

[0048] Results of these tests are as follows:

% transmission	0.5%	1.0%	10%	30%	50%	70%	80%
UV light cutoff (nm) pre-extraction	386	388	396	401	405	410	415
post-extraction	382	384	393	399	404	409	415

[0049] These results indicate that both the original film and the extracted film have very good UV light absorbing properties. Further, the extracted film showed no significant change in UV light absorbing properties relative to the film before extraction. The minor differences in the transmission profiles of the original and purified films may result from the use of an unpurified form of the UV light absorbing monomer and/or the presence of non-reacted, extractable silicones which are bonded to some of the UV light absorbing monomer and are lost during extraction.

EXAMPLE 4

[0050] Example 3 was repeated using a somewhat larger amount of II (the mixture of isomers) in place of III. Both the film before extraction, which included 0.54% by weight of the UV light absorbing component and the extracted film were optically clear and were tested for UV light absorbance.

[0051] Results of these tests were as follows:

%transmission	0.5%	1.0%	10%	30%	50%	70%	80%
UV light cutoff (nm) pre-extraction	391	394	400	405	410	415	419
post-extraction	389	390	398	403	407	412	417

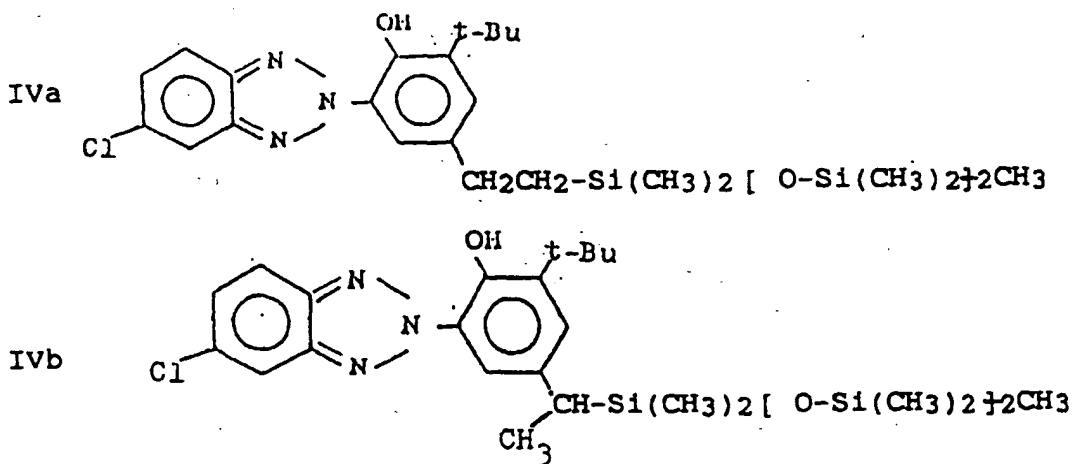
[0052] These results indicate that both the original film and the extracted film have very good UV light absorbing properties. Further, the extracted film showed no significant change in UV light absorbing properties relative to the film before extraction.

EXAMPLE 5

Preparation of 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2"-heptamethyl trisiloxane ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole and 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(1"-heptamethyltrisiloxane ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole mixture

[0053] A 100 ml 3 neck flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, an inert gas inlet topped reflux condenser and a thermocouple is charged with 20 g (0.09 mole) 1,1,1,3,3,5,5-heptamethyltrisiloxane (Petrarch Systems, Inc.), 4.0 g (0.012 mole) of I and 10 g dry toluene. The mixture is stirred at room temperature for 1 hr until all I dissolved. 1 ml platinum complex solution (Petrarch Systems, Inc., catalog no. PC-075) is added and the reaction mixture is stirred at room temperature for 48 hrs. Unreacted heptamethyltrisiloxane and toluene are removed by vacuum. A yellow viscous oil, hereinafter identified as IV, is isolated using conventional chromatography techniques, IV can be further purified, if desired. However, this yellow viscous oil, without further purification is effective as a UV light absorbing component. This oil remains a liquid even at -30°C.

[0054] Mass spectroscopy analysis indicates a molecular weight for IV of about 550. HPLC analysis shows essentially two components corresponding to the IVa and IVb isomers.



[0055] This mixture is found to have very effective UV light absorbing properties.

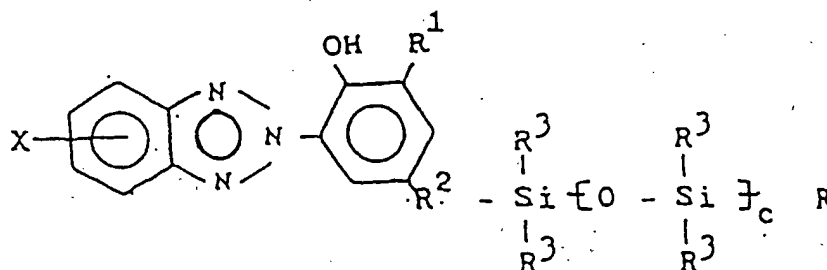
EXAMPLE 6

[0056] Example 3 is repeated using IV (the mixture of isomers) in place of III. The film is extracted with water, instead of toluene, for 8 hours. Both the film before extraction and the extracted film are optically clear and are tested for UV light absorbance and are found to have very good UV light absorbing properties.

[0057] While this invention has been described with respect to various specific examples and embodiments, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto and that it can be variously practiced within the scope of the following claims.

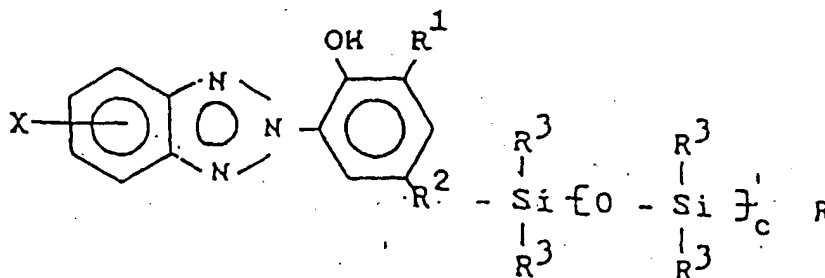
Claims

1. An ultraviolet light absorbing silicone composition comprising silicone elastomer and an effective amount of ultraviolet light absorbing component covalently bonded to said silicone elastomer and derived from one or more ultraviolet light absorbing compounds selected from compounds having the following structure



and mixtures thereof, wherein X is selected from H, alkoxy radicals and halogen; R¹ is selected from H and alkyl radicals, provided at least one of X and R¹ is other than H; R² is selected from divalent hydrocarbon radicals, divalent substituted hydrocarbon radicals, oxo, divalent oxyhydrocarbon radicals, divalent substituted oxyhydrocarbon radicals; each R³ is independently selected from alkyl radicals, substituted alkyl radicals, alkoxy radicals, substituted alkoxy radicals, aryl radicals, substituted aryl radicals and fluoro radicals; R is selected from H and CH = CH₂; and c is an integer of 1 to 20.

2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein each R³ is independently selected from alkyl radicals and aryl radicals, and R is selected from alkyl radicals.
3. A composition according to claim 1 wherein each R³ is independently selected from alkyl radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, substituted alkyl radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkoxy radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, substituted alkoxy radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, phenyl radicals and substituted phenyl radicals, and c is an integer in the range of 1 to 4.
4. A corneal contact lens, an intraocular lens or a corneal intrastromal lens comprising a composition according to any of the preceding claims, provided said composition is optically clear.
5. A polymerisable ultra violet light absorbing compound which can be covalently coupled into a silicone elastomer and which is of the following formula



wherein X is selected from H, alkoxy radicals and halogen; R¹ is selected from H and alkyl radicals, provided at least one of X and R¹ is other than H; R² is selected from divalent hydrocarbon radicals, divalent substituted hydrocarbon radicals, oxo, divalent oxyhydrocarbon radicals, divalent substituted oxyhydrocarbon radicals; each R³ is independently selected from alkyl radicals, substituted alkyl radicals, alkoxy radicals, substituted alkoxy radicals, aryl radicals, and substituted aryl radicals; R is selected from H and CH = CH₂; and c is an integer of 1 to 20.

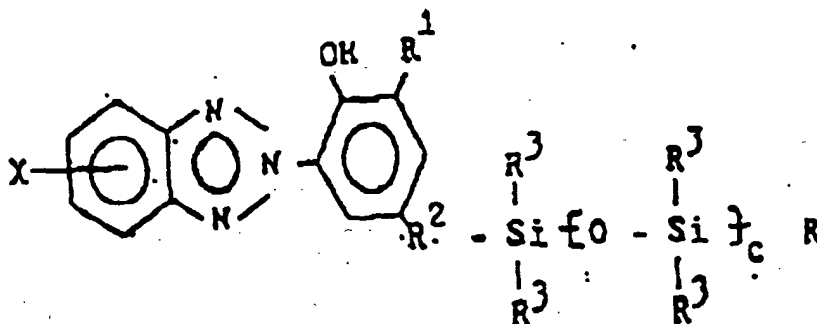
6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein R¹ is selected from alkyl radicals, R² is an alkylene radical, and each R³

is independently selected from alkyl radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, substituted alkyl radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkoxy radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, substituted alkoxy radicals having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, phenyl radicals, and substituted phenyl radicals.

- 5 7. A compound or mixture of compounds according to claim 5 and selected from 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2''(7'''-vinyl octamethyl tetrasiloxane) ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole and 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(1''(7'''-vinyl octamethyl tetrasiloxane) ethyl) phenyl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole.
- 10 8. A composition curable into a cross-linked polymer product and comprising a cross-linkable siloxane polymer, a cross-linking component capable of reacting with said cross-linkable siloxane polymer, and at least one compound capable of reacting with at least one of said cross-linkable siloxane polymer and said cross-linking component in an amount effective to render said cross-linked polymer product ultraviolet light absorbing, said compound having the structure shown in claim 5, but wherein each R^3 may be independently selected from the R^3 options of claim 5 and fluoro radicals.

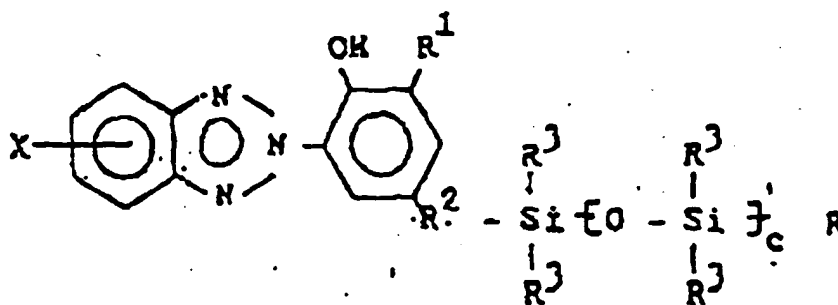
15 Patentansprüche

1. UV-Licht absorbierende Silikonzusammensetzung, umfassend Silikonelastomer und eine wirksame Menge einer UV-Licht absorbierenden Komponente, die kovalent an das genannte Silikonelastomer gebunden ist und von einer oder mehreren UV-Licht absorbierenden Verbindung(en) stammt, ausgewählt aus Verbindungen mit der folgenden Struktur



und Gemischen davon, wobei X ausgewählt ist aus H, Alkoxyradikalen und Halogen; R^1 ausgewählt ist aus H und Alkylradikalen, vorausgesetzt, daß wenigstens X oder R^1 nicht H ist; R^2 ausgewählt ist aus bivalenten Kohlenwasserstoffradikalen, bivalenten substituierten Kohlenwasserstoffradikalen, Oxo-, bivalenten Oxykohlenwasserstoffradikalen, bivalenten substituierten Oxykohlenwasserstoffradikalen; jedes R^3 unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus Alkylradikalen, substituierten Alkylradikalen, Alkoxyradikalen, substituierten Alkoxyradikalen, Arylradikalen, substituierten Arylradikalen und Fluorradikalen; R ausgewählt ist aus H und $CH = CH_2$; und c eine ganze Zahl im Bereich von 1 bis 20 ist.

- 40 2. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, bei der jedes R^3 unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus Alkylradikalen und Arylradikalen, und R^1 ausgewählt ist aus Alkylradikalen.
- 50 3. Zusammensetzung nach Anspruch 1, bei der jedes R^3 unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus Alkylradikalen mit 1 bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, substituierten Alkylradikalen mit 1 bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, Alkoxyradikalen mit 1, bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, substituierten Alkoxyradikalen mit 1 bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, Phenylradikalen und substituierten Phenylradikalen, und c eine ganze Zahl im Bereich von 1 bis 4 ist.
- 55 4. Kornealkontaktlinse, intraokulare Linse oder intrastromale Korneallinse, umfassend eine Zusammensetzung nach einen der vorherigen Ansprüche, vorausgesetzt, die genannte Zusammensetzung ist optisch klar.
5. Polymerisierbare UV-Licht absorbierende Verbindung, die kovalent in ein Silikonelastomer gekoppelt werden kann und die die folgende Formel aufweist

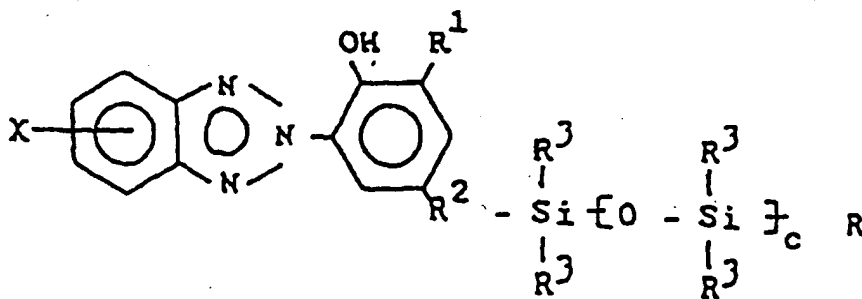


wobei X ausgewählt ist aus H, Alkoxyradikalen und Halogen; R¹ ausgewählt ist aus H und Alkylradikalen, vorausgesetzt, daß wenigstens X oder R¹ nicht H ist; R² ausgewählt ist aus bivalenten Kohlenwasserstoffradikalen, bivalenten substituierten Kohlenwasserstoffradikalen, Oxo-, bivalenten Oxykohlenwasserstoffradikalen, bivalenten substituierten Oxykohlenwasserstoffradikalen; jedes R³ unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus Alkylradikalen, substituierten Alkylradikalen, Alkoxyradikalen, substituierten Alkoxyradikalen, Arylradikalen und substituierten Arylradikalen; R ausgewählt ist aus H und CH = CH₂; und c eine ganze Zahl im Bereich von 1 bis 20 ist.

6. Verbindung nach Anspruch 5, bei der R¹ ausgewählt ist aus Alkylradikalen, R² ein Alkylradikal ist und jedes R³ unabhängig ausgewählt ist aus Alkylradikalen mit 1 bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, substituierten Alkylradikalen mit 1 bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, Alkoxyradikalen mit 1 bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, substituierten Alkoxyradikalen mit 1 bis 4 Kohlenstoffatomen, Phenylradikalen und substituierten Phenylradikalen.
7. Verbindung oder Gemisch aus Verbindungen nach Anspruch 5, ausgewählt aus 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2''(7'''-vinyl-octamethyl-tetrasiloxan)ethyl)phenyl]-5-chlor-2H-benzotriazol und 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(1''(7'''-vinyl-octamethyl-tetrasiloxan)ethyl)phenyl]-5-chlor-2H-benzotriazol.
8. Zusammensetzung, die in ein vernetztes Polymerprodukt vulkanisierbar ist und folgendes umfaßt: ein vernetzbares Siloxanpolymer, eine vernetzende Komponente, die mit dem genannten vernetzbaren Siloxanpolymer reagieren kann, und wenigstens eine Verbindung, die mit wenigstens dem genannten vernetzbaren Siloxanpolymer oder der genannten vernetzenden Komponente reagieren kann, in einer Menge, die bewirkt, daß das genannte vernetzte Polymerprodukt wirksam UV-Licht absorbiert, wobei die genannte Verbindung die in Anspruch 5 dargestellte Struktur hat, wobei aber jedes R³ unabhängig aus den R³-Optionen von Anspruch 5 und Fluorradikalen ausgewählt sein kann.

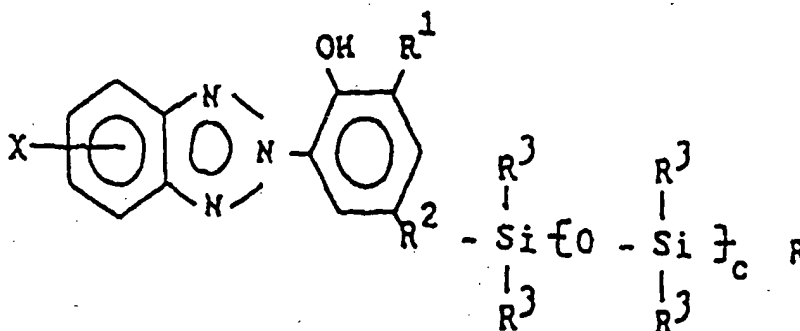
Revendications

1. Composition de silicone absorbant la lumière ultraviolette comprenant un élastomère de silicone et une quantité efficace de composant absorbant la lumière ultraviolette lié de manière covalente audit élastomère de silicone et dérivé d'un ou de plusieurs composés absorbant la lumière ultraviolette sélectionnés à partir de composés ayant la structure suivante



et de mélanges de ceux-ci, dans laquelle X est sélectionné à partir de H, de radicaux alcoxy et d'un halogène; R¹ est sélectionné à partir de H et de radicaux alkyle, dans la mesure où au moins l'un de X et R¹ est autre que H; R² est sélectionné à partir de radicaux bivalents d'hydrocarbures, radicaux bivalents d'hydrocarbures substitués, oxo, radicaux bivalents d'oxyhydrocarbures, radicaux bivalents d'oxyhydrocarbures substitués; chaque R³ est indépendamment sélectionné à partir de radicaux alkyle, de radicaux alkyle substitués, de radicaux alcoxy, de radicaux alcoxy substitués, de radicaux aryle, de radicaux aryle substitués et de radicaux fluorés; R est sélectionné à partir de H et CH = CH₂; et c est un nombre entier de 1 à 20.

2. Composition selon la revendication 1 dans laquelle chaque R³ est indépendamment sélectionné à partir de radicaux alkyle et de radicaux aryle, et R¹ est sélectionné à partir de radicaux alkyle.
3. Composition selon la revendication 1 dans laquelle chaque R³ est indépendamment sélectionné à partir de radicaux alkyle ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux alkyle substitués ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux alcoxy ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux alcoxy substitués ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux phényle et de radicaux phényle substitués, et c est un nombre entier dans la gamme de 1 à 4.
4. Lentille de contact cornéenne, lentille intraoculaire ou lentille cornéenne intrastromale comprenant une composition selon l'une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans la mesure où ladite composition est optiquement claire.
5. Composé absorbant la lumière ultraviolette polymérisable qui peut être conjugué de manière covalente dans un élastomère de silicone et qui a la formule suivante



dans laquelle X est sélectionné à partir de H, de radicaux alcoxy et d'un halogène; R¹ est sélectionné à partir de H et de radicaux alkyle, dans la mesure où au moins l'un de X et R¹ est autre que H; R² est sélectionné à partir de radicaux bivalents d'hydrocarbures, de radicaux bivalents d'hydrocarbures substitués, oxo, de radicaux bivalents d'oxyhydrocarbures, de radicaux bivalents d'oxyhydrocarbures substitués; chaque R³ est indépendamment sélectionné à partir de radicaux alkyle, de radicaux alkyle substitués, de radicaux alcoxy, de radicaux alcoxy substitués, de radicaux aryle, et de radicaux aryle substitués; R est sélectionné à partir de H et CH = CH₂; et c est un nombre entier de 1 à 20.

6. Composé selon la revendication 5 dans lequel R¹ est sélectionné à partir de radicaux alkyle, R² est un radical alkylène, et chaque R³ est indépendamment sélectionné à partir de radicaux alkyle ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux alkyle substitués ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux alcoxy ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux alcoxy substitués ayant de 1 à 4 atomes de carbone, de radicaux phényle, et de radicaux phényle substitués.
7. Composé ou mélange de composés selon la revendication 5 et sélectionnés à partir de 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(2''(7'''-vinyl-octaméthyl-tétrasiloxane)éthyl)phényl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole et de 2-[3'-t-butyl-2'-hydroxy-5'-(1''(7'''-vinyl-octaméthyl-tétrasiloxane)éthyl)phényl]-5-chloro-2H-benzotriazole.
8. Composition durcissable dans un produit polymère réticulé et comprenant un polymère de siloxane réticulable, un composant de réticulation capable de réagir avec ledit polymère de siloxane réticulable, et au moins un composé capable de réagir avec au moins un dudit polymère de siloxane réticulable et un dudit composant de réticulation en une quantité efficace pour rendre ledit produit polymère réticulé absorbant de lumière ultraviolette, ledit composé

ayant la structure présentée dans la revendication 5, mais dans lequel R^3 peut être indépendamment sélectionné à partir des options de R^3 de la revendication 5 et de radicaux fluorés.

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